

LEENA A. RAUT, Esq.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2007-present	U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION II	New York, New York
	Assistant Regional Counsel (New Jersey Superfund Branch) Responsible for all aspects of enforcement under Comprehensive Environmental Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (CERCLA or Superfund), including but not limited to liability, defenses, exemptions, and EPA guidance and policies. Conduct Potentially Responsible Party searches to identify parties involved at site and extent of their involvement. Draft CERCLA 104(e) Information Requests, Unilateral Administrative Orders, Administrative Orders on Consent, Consent Decrees, Ability to Pay Settlements, Access Agreements, Notice and Demand Letters, and judicial litigation referrals. Drafted pre-negotiation referral for Remedial Design/Remedial Action Consent Decree, two CERCLA Section 107(a) cost recovery referrals, and one Section 104(e) access referral. Conduct negotiations, depositions, and Alternative Dispute Resolution when appropriate. Review and advise client on Action Memoranda, Records of Decision, Preliminary Assessments, Remedial Investigations, and Feasibility Studies for legal sufficiency. Work in conjunction with United States Department of Justice on several Superfund matters in litigation, including assisting in drafting declarations, drafting and reviewing pleadings, and conducting discovery and privilege review with a particular emphasis on electronic discovery. Supervise paralegals, support staff, and legal interns on specified tasks.	
	Member of Region 2 E-Discovery Workgroup Member of an internal workgroup to address regional and agency-wide discovery concerns including legal requirements for the issuance of a litigation hold to asserting privilege as well as technical needs for appropriate collection and production software for electronic discovery. Provide assistance on discovery matters to fellow staff attorneys. Act as a liaison between staff attorneys and management to voice discovery needs internally and in conjunction with the Department of Justice. Attend discovery seminars and conferences to stay abreast of the latest developments in electronic discovery.	
April 2014-present	Regional Criminal Enforcement Counsel	
	Responsible for coordinating legal aspects of the Region's criminal enforcement program for seven judicial districts. Serving as a legal advisor to the Criminal Investigation Division Special Agent in Charge and federal agents regarding legal issues related to criminal investigations, as well Regional program managers regarding legal matters associated with criminal enforcement activities. Responsibilities also include the following: providing investigation and trial support the U.S. Attorney's Offices and the U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental Crimes Section; serving as a national and regional expert on electronic discovery; and coordinating with the Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics, and Training.	
2010-2011	Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator	
	Assisted the Regional Administrator (RA) with various projects and initiatives on a regional and national level. Facilitated coordination between the RA and staff to ensure that the RA was fully prepared for meetings, including the assembly of briefing materials. Assisted the RA in coordinating and implementing meetings with the other federal agencies in New York and New Jersey to meet the President's sustainability goals as per Executive Order 13514. Worked with staff and community members to organize a tour of the Camden, New Jersey waterfront to address environmental justice concerns. Assisted with the coordination and follow-up for an Urban Air Pollution Workgroup in New Jersey. Assisted with efforts through EPA's Superfund Job Training Initiative to train local hires to work on environmental remediation efforts associated with the Passaic River Superfund cleanup.	
	Awards Certificate of Commendation from United States Department of Justice for assistance in privilege review during the discovery phase of the Dana Bankruptcy litigation related to the Cornell Dublier Superfund Site. Two Bronze Medals for work on the Regional electronic discovery workgroup. One Bronze Medal for working as part of a team to reduce exposure to trichloroethylene at the Albea America's Facility in a short timeframe, as part of the clean-up activities at the Pohatcong Valley Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site.	
2004-2007	NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERAL, DIVISION OF LAW	Trenton, New Jersey
	Deputy Attorney General (Division of Law, Environmental Enforcement Section) Represented New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection on broad range of enforcement matters involving state air pollution matters; violations of Pesticide Control Act; solid waste issues; violations under New Jersey Safe Dam Act; land use violations, such as waterfront development violations, freshwater and coastal wetlands violations, and flood hazard area violations; and enforcement matters for Landscape Irrigation Contractors Examination Board. Handled cases in New Jersey Appellate Division, New Jersey Superior Court, and primarily in New Jersey Office of Administrative Law. Negotiated settlements, conducted legal research, and drafted legal papers, memoranda, and correspondence on behalf of the Department. Supervised paralegals and support staff on specified tasks.	
2002-2004	NEW YORK PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP	New York, New York
	Legal Intern Researched and wrote legal papers regarding air pollution from power plants. Drafted papers in state and federal forums to enjoin construction of power plant near Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, regarding Clean Air Act Title V permits, and to United States Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) regarding granting of Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) air permit. Wrote <i>amicus</i> asserting that power authority evaded proper procedures under New York State Environmental Quality Review Act. Attended legislative hearings regarding air pollution in New York. Handled New York Freedom of Information Law requests and reviews.	
2003	BROOKLYN LEGAL SERVICES	Brooklyn, New York
	Clinical Student (Community Development Clinic) Represented Community Board to set up non-profit arm under Section 501(c)(3) of Internal Revenue Service tax regulations. Incorporated non-profit, drafted by-laws, counseled client on non-profit structure and assisted Community Board to effectively participate in Port Authority's pier and waterfront development plans in Brooklyn, New York.	
2003	UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	Washington, D. C.
	Law Clerk (Environment and Natural Resources Division, Environmental Enforcement Section) Researched issues of federal environmental enforcement in civil litigation capacity. Researched liability of corporate officer for failure to respond to Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) information request. Wrote memoranda on applicability of Comprehensive Environmental	

Response, Compensation and Liability Act's (CERCLA) petroleum exclusion to post-refinement additives, cost recovery actions and contribution actions involving federal agencies as potentially responsible parties and waiver of right to jury trial under cost recovery action. Attended settlement negotiations between township and federal government regarding CERCLA cost recovery actions. Drafted complaint for CERCLA cost recovery action.

EDUCATION

2004	BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL	Brooklyn, New York
	Juris Doctorate	
	NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	Newark, New Jersey
2001	<i>College of Science and Liberal Arts</i> Master of Science: Environmental Policy Studies Thesis: <i>Early Public Participation and Support for a Brownfields Redevelopment Project: A Study on Perth Amboy</i>	
1999	<i>Albert Dorman Honors College & College of Science and Liberal Arts</i> Bachelor of Science: Science, Technology, and Society with concentration in Environmental Policy Thesis: <i>The Grameen Bank: An Experiment in Sustainable Human Development</i> Honors: Cum Laude, Dean's List	

MEMBERSHIPS

Member, New York State Bar Association, Environmental Law Section
Member, New Jersey State Bar Association
Member, American Bar Association